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21. THE KEELED BOX TURTLE *PYXIDEA MOUHOTII* GRAY ON THE NORTH BANK OF THE BRAHMAPUTRA — A NEW RECORD

The Keeled box turtle *Pyxidea mouhotii* Gray, 1862, is one of the poorly-known hard-shell turtle species of South-East Asia. In India, it is confined to the North-East and has been specifically recorded from North Cachar Hills, Assam, Garo and Khasi Hills of Meghalaya (Das 1991), Mehao sanctuary (Bhupathy and Choudhury 1992) and Namdapha National Park, Arunachal Pradesh (Das 1991). Recently this species has been recorded from Dhansiri reserved forest, Karbi Anglong district, Assam (Choudhury 1993). All these records were from the south of the Brahmaputra river.

On 27 April 1995, I obtained a carapace of keeled box turtle (AUC 39) in Madhupur village of Lakhimpur district in eastern Assam. It measured (in cm): Straight line carapace length=16.35; Curved carapace length= 18.4; Straight line carapace width=

11.8; Curved carapace width= 17.9 and Carapace height= 6.0.

On enquiry, I was told by the villager who collected it live, that it was found in a small hill stream with flowing water in Durpong Reserved Forest of Papum Pare district (formerly part of Lower Subansiri district) of Arunachal Pradesh. The interstate border is only about a kilometre from Madhupur and the site of original collection was only a few kilometres inside the foothill country. This part of Arunachal Pradesh has been referred to as Daffla Hills in earlier records.

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22. REPRODUCTIVE BEHAVIOUR OF INDIAN MUGGER (*CROCODYLUS PALUSTRIS*) AT BHOR-SAIN DAN CROCODILE SANCTUARY IN HARYANA

The present study was conducted on the Indian marsh Crocodile at Bhor Saidan Crocodile sanctuary in Kurukshetra District of Haryana State in India 29° 45' N, 76° 44' E. The sanctuary is situated 13 Km West of Kurukshetra on Kurukshetra-Pehowa road. The total area of the sanctuary is 3.25 ha. In the middle of the sanctuary, there is a big earth mound

riddled with tunnels, where crocodiles stay at night during winter and lay eggs during the summer. The earth mound is surrounded by a circular water body. The mound is connected to the pond by two longitudinal bunds at the front and back which provides a passage to the mound.

In the centre of the pond, there is a platform,